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SOCCER WORLD

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AUSTRALIAN SOCCER

15c

AUSTRALIA'S OLDEST AND ONLY INDEPENDENT SOCCER NEWSPAPER

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CHOCOLATES

**HOPES HIGH
FOR
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VISIT
IN JANUARY**

The brilliant Hungarian team Ferencvaros is likely to reach Sydney on January 18 for a scheduled six or seven-match tour.

Undefeated after 23 rounds in the Hungarian championship, Ferencvaros are currently rated among Europe's top five teams, together with Manchester United, Benfica, Celtic and Inter Milan.

St. George - Budapest president Les Bordacs said this week that Ferencvaros had accepted their terms for a tour.

Two matches may be played in Sydney and Melbourne each while one may be staged in Adelaide, Perth and Newcastle.

They may also visit New Zealand, if suitable terms can be arranged.

Ferencvaros, led by Florian Albert, Europe's No. 1 player today, are certain to create huge interest.

There is a chance that they may clash in Australia with the crack Brazilian side, Fluminense of Rio.

The Brazilians are keen to play a few matches here about the same period and four matches have already been offered to them, two apiece in Sydney and Melbourne.

Fluminense have, among their many stars, internationals Fidelis, Silva and others.

An added piquancy would be the fact that earlier this year, Albert spent two weeks in Rio — as the guest of Fluminense.

While there, he trained and played with the great Rio team.

His invitation was a result of Albert's breathtaking display against Brazil in Liverpool during last year's World Cup when, largely due to his brilliance, Hungary trounced the then world champions 3-1.

Les Bordacs said an effort will be made to secure the Sports Ground for the Ferencvaros matches though in summer months that ground is seldom available for soccer.

YUGOSLAV STAR HERE

Ivo Radovnikovic, one of Yugoslavia's greatest half-backs of all time, slipped into Sydney unnoticed last week. Radovnikovic many times an international, coached and captained Hajduk Split and toured Australia with the crack Yugoslav club in 1949. He hopes to settle in Australia if he can get a coaching appointment with a local club.

OUR TEAM GOES TO WAR POORLY ARMED

— By PAUL DEAN —

It is unlikely that even the toughest US Marines would be thrown into action in Vietnam with more daring and abandon than soon forced on our Australian soccer team.

With more intelligent planning, Australia would have started as favorites for the prestige-laden Saigon Tournament.

As it is, even a place in the semifinal would be a good result.

The team will depart from Sydney on Monday, October 30 and arrive in Saigon the same day.

On Tuesday, November 1 — about 24 hours after their arrival — they may be playing their first match.

If this were our first venture in Asia, one could be more tolerant. But in 1965 a team did go to Cambodia, in a World Cup quest and later, amidst loud mea culpas, officials admitted a grave fault in our tour planning.

After the 1965 Asian trip, coach Tiko Jelisevic said this in his official report:

"In the first match against North Korea we played a subordinate role on the field ... we had insufficient adjustment to the extremely heavy tropical conditions...."

"...in the planning of the matches we made two unfortunate errors: firstly we did not play a few matches in Asia before going to Cambodia and secondly, we did not arrive in Cambodia two weeks prior to the match against North Korea...."

"We were stricken with the crisis of the tropical readjustment at the worst possible time ... these factors will have to be taken into consideration concerning any future plans for Asia."

But of course, they haven't been considered at all. Once again we send an Australian team to Asia where they will first play in an important tournament — and then, by the time they may have become a team — will play some friendlies...

Jim Bayutti, in his own 1965 report, also touched on this vital problem. Referring to the first tour match, he said: "During the 90 fighting minutes each one of our players had attacks of gastroenteritis and forms of dizziness..."

"The following day the entire Australian team and the rest of the squad were sick..."

Our staff man, Lou Gautier who went on the tour later elaborated on these aspects.

The gist of his remarks was that had we played the friendly matches first and the North Korean elimination ties last, we would have stood a chance.

So two years later, despite many warnings and first hand experiences, we are about to repeat our mistake...

The selection of the final

squad of players also leaves a lot to be desired.

For the first time ever, the selection was entrusted to the Australian Coaches Federation and it was largely their executive in the various States who recommended and finally selected the players.

Now, we are faced with some peculiarities, such as:

● Adelaide supplies three forwards to the team, compared to Sydney's two;

● Hollandia of Queensland has given just as many players to the squad as APIA and St. George, two of Australia's top teams;

● Top rated fullbacks like Rice, Cook, Lincoln and Hillsdon have been overlooked but three untried defenders have been included.

● Scheinflug was omitted because of his age (29) but Van Alphen was included, despite his age (30-plus).

● Class forwards such as Giles, Blue, Blitz and Cliss have been ignored.

In the past Australian teams were often criticised for including "too many" Sydney players.

Now, it seems, the various States had to be placated and one only feels sorry for

Western Australia and Tasmania for missing out on this subdivision of privileges.

By what must be rated an extraordinary coincidence, a large proportion of players have been selected from clubs coached by the selectors themselves.

But the saddest part of the story is that, despite repeated promises over the years, the ASF has never stuck to a continuous national-team policy.

Every time an Australian team has commitments, we go through the same boring process. (Continued page 5.)



St. George on the attack in the Pan Hellenic goalmouth during last Sunday's Australia Cup match. Johnston (No. 2) and Dounias (No. 5) head the ball clear of Warren and Stegbauer while Karyannis and others look on.

Contest winners rewarded Sunday

The winners of the Alitalia-sponsored SOCCER WORLD-LA FIAMMA Contests will receive their prizes Sunday afternoon at Wentworth Park before the start of the APIA v. Lake Macquarie Australia Cup match.

The Readers' Contest has been won by Mrs. Sophia Michopoulos, of Pagewood, NSW, who totalled 850 points for the 13 sections of the Contest.

Mrs. Michopoulos wins a return trip to Rome by Alitalia.

The name of the winner of the Players' Contest will be drawn out of the hat.

Johnny Giacometti (APIA), the winner of the Sydney section, Peter Worthington (WA-Hellas), the Adelaide winner, and Pyrgolios of South Melbourne Hellas, Victoria's most popular player, will be involved in the draw.

The winner will receive two Alitalia return tickets to Bangkok.

Dr. Miceli-Picardi, General Manager for Alitalia in Australasia, will present Mrs. Michopoulos and the lucky player with their Alitalia flight tickets.

● In our next issue we will publish results of Sections 12 and 13 and the final points tally for the Readers' and Players' Contests.

This family of ours has common bonds

— By KEITH GILMOUR —

The matter of district football and nationalistic names has been so clothed with the paraphernalia of pro and anti migrant sentiments that it is long, long overdue to be cut down to size.

One thing needs to be said at the outset.

It was, in the main, the migrants who gave soccer its meaning as a team sport of outstanding potential in Australia.

In pointing to the people who brought a dynamic dimension to the code, we should not let this obscure our view of the principal factors behind the sport's problems.

How is the game to grow from here on?

Let us look at the position dispassionately.

Well, first there are PEOPLE. Born in (a) Europe, (b) Britain, (c) Australia.

Here many differing racial characteristics and backgrounds are involved.

Then we have PLACES. Those born outside Australia take time to adjust their relationship from their European country of origin to their home in Australia.

Migrants

This often is still the case 20 years after arrival.

It especially applies if language change is involved, just as we who are born here would find a slow adjustment to living in parts of Europe.

Harking back to primitive life, for an example, of what occurs with the human species, experts tell us that an animal needs certain space to operate in. A shark needs its section of ocean, and violation of it can produce an explosive situation.

With people, they need a home and a homeland.

You know that an Englishman's home is his castle.

And often it has been said of two migrants: "He is his countryman," which speaks volumes for the bond that binds people together in a new country.

From there, my message is that we are all in a sense "countrymen."

Aussies

The greatest area for development in soccer is amongst the Australian born who have no recent migrant connection, and who probably comprise say 7 out of 10 of the entire population.

These people come to a new sport slowly. Some will come, some never will.

All have little connection with individual countries or cities of Europe.

A proportion of them must be won over for the game to grow.

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Here, let us not depend at all on an ignorant "Australia will do, me mate" at-all-costs attitude, which will solve nothing and complicate plenty.

But perhaps we may see that migrant community names must tend to bar the populace as a whole from more interest in soccer.

Coaches

Paradoxically, it is the migrant coach who is bringing to young Australians the chance to compete in football at a standard that was hitherto impossible to attain here.

In the area of district football, shotgun weddings between migrant clubs and local districts and associations are out.

But it might be a worthwhile job for a migrant club to adopt a district name exclusively.

I doubt that it would bring the world to an end.

It could lead to some worthwhile blending of European skills and Australian enthusiasm.

And it could further the areas of soccer growth, to everyone's delight and advantage.

Which is what, with some trepidation and ever so haltingly, I set out to say when the first paragraph was penned.

Amateurs move North

The Northern NSW Branch of the NSW Amateur Association was successfully launched at a recent meeting held in Armidale.

State secretary D.T. Childs represented the NSW body at the meeting.

Whilst soccer has been long established in the North West at various centres such as Armidale, Tamworth, Moree, Gunnedah, and on the North Coast, particularly in the Lismore-Casino region, the north of the State has lacked a suitable structure.

This now means that Sydney, Hunter Valley, Southern, and Northern are functioning properly, and only Western NSW needs to set up its own organization.

Branch junior championships could be considered for 1968 in some places, where distances and standard makes it difficult to compete in State titles.

In Sydney, the KO Cup for representative teams will be played over the next two Sundays, to complete the junior season.

On Sunday, 22 games will be played at each ground — Seymour Shaw, George Green, Marconi, and Allum Reserve. The series will be completed on October 22 at Marconi and Seymour Shaw Parks.

All games are 10 minutes each way, and the pick of Sydney's juniors will be competing.

The "Champion of Champions" competition for premier club teams was completed last weekend, with winners and runners-up coming from the Associations shown:

Under 9: Bankstown def. Canterbury; Under 12: Granville def. Sutherland; Under 13: Wests def. Gladesville; Under 16: Granville def. Canterbury; All Age: Canterbury def. Southern districts.

— Keith Gilmour

SYDNEY CLUB PATROL

The WESTERN SUBURBS Apprentices Scheme will be in full swing early in the new year. The club will soon release the names of the players who have been accepted from the hundreds of applications they received from all over Australia. The lucky candidate will start training under coach Joe Marston next January.

LANE COVE UNITED's Annual General Meeting will be held at the Pottery Green Clubrooms, Lane Cove, this Friday night, October 13, at 8 p.m.

TIKO JELISAVIC, the former Australian and Hakoah coach, has been appointed chief soccer coach at the Narrabeen Fitness Camp. He will start his duties next February.

At MELITA EAGLES' Presentation Night last Sunday cups were awarded for "best and fairest" players in the three grades by coach, Joe Vlasits. Terry Eaton won the first grade award, Ross Wynn the second grade and Graham Harris the third grade trophy.

APIA president, EDDIE PROVERA, will not stand for re-election at the club's AGM. Vice-president, VIC CAPELETTO, one of the most know-

Slavia may play Australia

Slavia Prague, the crack Czechoslovakian team, will be in Sydney in the first week of December.

Slavia are in the mould of Slovan Bratislava and Sparta Prague, the classy Czechoslovakian clubs that toured Australia in January-February 1966 and 1967.

Slavia are on a world tour, which will also take in the United States.

As always, Prague have arranged to sponsor their Australian visit, and club president, Jan Domabyl, is now in Czechoslovakia completing details for their brief stop-over in Australia.

Prague's original plan was for Slavia to play a match in Sydney early in December against a combined Prague-Pan Hellenic side, or against the full Prague side as coach Venglos will train the team during the summer months, starting in mid-November.

Prague, however, are now keen to arrange, on SOCCER WORLD's suggestion, a match between Slavia and the Australian national team.

The national team is due to return from Asia on December 6, when the Czechoslovakians will still be in Sydney.

A match between Australia and Slavia, under floodlights, on December 7 would be a natural.

It would give the Australian public a chance to see the tourists in action at the end of a five-week tour.

The Australian team is bound to improve with every match of their Asian tour and at its completion may have reached the same high degree of understanding as the 1965 Australian team. The Australian public was then denied the opportunity of seeing for themselves the improved form of the national side.

This year, however, there would be no excuse for a match on Australian soil not taking place as Slavia Prague will be in Sydney to provide the opposition.

Played under floodlights, such a match, even in December, could prove a drawcard before the Australian players disband.

The ball is now at the feet of the Australian Federation. For the sake of the Sydney public, we trust the ASF will give this match more than a passing thought.

— LOU GAUTIER

ledgeable officials in soccer, is almost certain to fill the presidency in 1968.

One of the most outstanding youths in the Bankstown District soccer is 17-year-old ALAN SHELDRIK, who this year played with the under-18 Bankstown team, and for the Bankstown reserves. Alan was born and bred in the district and started his football career with Revesby Rovers. He is a vigorous defender and played most of his football at right fullback. This year he was selected and played with the State amateur team.



Star forwards HERBERT NINAUS and GERRY HOOD and Canterbury have made up. According to team manager, Stan Liebermann, the two former Hakoah players will re-sign with the Berries next season.

Granville Association president, BERT PACKER, is one of Sydney's strongest propagandists for the coaching schools conducted by the NSW Coaches Federation. He believes that last year showed a marked increase in interest in improving soccer standards in the district, following holding of a coaching course the year before.

A financial hitch has developed in HAKOAH's plans for a tour of New Caledonia next January. The two matches in Noumea may now be called off.

The JUVENTUS CANBERRA players and officials were entertained at the APIA club after last Sunday's Australia Cup match. Despite their hammering, the visitors were satisfied with their display, particularly during the first half when they held the cup holders at 1-1.

RAMAGE, the British goalkeeper who joined St. George late this season, is expected to sign with South Coast United for 1968.

JOE CILJA, the Melita Eagles centre-half, became a father for the third time last week when his wife presented him with a baby boy.

Despite the absence of the injured Campana and Hughes, and national team players, Ackerley and Watkiss, APIA won't take any guest players to NEW CALEDONIA next month. The trip, APIA's second in 12 months to the Pacific Islands (they toured Tahiti last spring) will only be for first and second grade team players.

The Australian international stopper, ALAN MARNOC, is the assistant-manager of Guildford Electric. He had to decline Asian tour selection because the pre-Christmas period is his firm's busiest trading time.

APIA's ball last Saturday night was a huge success. More than 800 people celebrated until the wee hours of Sunday morning, which may explain why the APIA players were so listless in the first half of their match against Juventus Canberra a few hours later.

TREVOR EDWARDS has recovered from his knee injury and will be fit to resume training with Hakoah after Christmas.

LES SCHAUMAN, the former Budapest and Croatia forward, is on his way back to Australia after a two and a half year spell in South African soccer.

St. George Association secretary, SID TANNER, has had well over 30 years service with the Saints and in junior football in NSW. He is elated with recent growth in St. George, where Lugarno club has jumped from 6 teams to 21 teams (and more to come for 1968) in 4 years, with adjacent Peakhurst United also racing ahead.

APIA are rumored to be negotiating for a top-rated Argentinian centre half who was in that country's World Cup party last year.

The Australian Federation of Soccer Coaches monthly BULLETIN for September is now out. The 12-page publication is a must for all coaches and soccer fans. It contains many useful hints and articles by some of the country's leading coaches.



DOUG HOLDEN is the top tip for the position of Hakoah coach next season. The club will decide this week whether to advertise for the vacancy or not.

RAY BAARTZ is holidaying with his mother in Newcastle until the Australian national team assembles in Sydney on Monday week.

The PEAKHURST junior club is giving a dinner for St. George-Budapest's Australian representative players, Warren, Schaefer and Morgan, at the St. George club on Friday.

Plans are well in hand for a coaching course to start in the NEPEAN District Soccer Association. The course will be held at Kingswood, and clubs taking part include Blue Mountains, Penrith RSL, St. Marys Convent, St. Marys Soccer and Sports Club, St. Dominic's College, Kingswood Cambridge Park, Springwood SC and Rookby Hill RSL. The date of starting now depends on the Coaches' Academy.

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Players' Presentation Night. A must for all members. Table reservations for dinner must be made by October 16.

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12 noon — 11 p.m.

Saturday:

10 a.m. — 1 a.m.

Sunday:

10 a.m. — 11 p.m.

The Dining Room is closed on Mondays.

This information inserted for club members only.

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● FIRST DIVISION FLASHBACK

PRAGUE'S YOUNGSTERS SURE TO MATURE SOON

— By LOU GAUTIER —

Prague showed enough promise this year to suggest they may play a much more prominent role in 1968.

Though their seventh placing in the league was their lowest ever, they can be well pleased with their achievement this season.

There were fears earlier in the year, when Prague embarked on their youth policy, that the team would struggle at the foot of the ladder, and perhaps even be in grave danger of relegation.

The 1967 season was a turning point in the history of one of the greatest names in Australian soccer.

The club which dominated the Sydney and national scene from 1959 to 1961 turned its back resolutely on the policies which made its greatness in the past.

On the verge of bankruptcy, with ruin staring them in the face, Prague underwent a revolutionary face-lift in 1967.

Out went the "stars", the near-veterans, and into the team, in ever-increasing numbers, came promising youngsters, some of whom on the threshold of brilliant careers.

This "new-look" Prague caught the imagination almost straight from the kick-off.

Although it took the team about five months to settle down to the delightful, zesty football they produced towards the end of the season, it was obvious from the beginning, that here was a team which would eventually go places.

Apart from the far-sighted Prague management, bold enough to take the plunge, two men can take much of the credit for Prague's highly satisfactory season.

First and foremost Josef Venglos, without a doubt one of Australia's most competent coaches.

The youthful Venglos was never afraid to inject new blood into his team, often sacrificing more experienced, better established players (Povey is a case in point) to talented, untried youth.

A born leader, Venglos had the right approach to his players who responded magnificently.

Venglos was just the coach

Prague needed in this vital year of transition.

Les Scheinflug, that long-serving club stalwart symbolized the link between the old and new Prague.

At 29, Scheinflug had one of his best seasons.

He may not have won all the honors heaped on him in the past when Prague ruled the roost, but he had the satisfaction of playing a major role in converting Prague's image successfully.

It would, however, be unfair to disassociate any player from Prague's endeavours in 1967.

They all played their part, and will even play a bigger one next season when Prague, judging on their 1967 performances, will make a bold bid for "top four" honors once again.

In Armytage, Gary Manuel and Ross Manuel, Prague unearthed three of the most promising local discoveries of the season.

Armytage, in particular, has class stamped all over, and we would be surprised if within two years he didn't reach the top.

Gary Manuel and Armytage, in my book, have more potential than, say, APIA's Campbell, but the two Prague lads suffered somewhat from the disadvantage of playing in a team which did not share in the limelight.

Fullback Harcombe, a certain selection, with stopper Zeman, in the Australian under-23 team which will tour the Islands next month, had another fine season and, with Zeman and Blacker, was the mainstay of Prague's defence.

Prague's top two imports this year were the Argentinian Blanco and Englishman Hoggart.

The latter was hampered by injury, but displayed enough class in his few appearances to show he will be a key player in 1968.

If Prague officials can curb their impatience for immediate success, and I am sure they can after the promise their team showed this year, they

should have no worries for the future.

The team may not reach the top of the tree in 1968, but it's London to a brick that 1969-1970 will see Prague once again in the position which was theirs' in the golden age of Sydney soccer.

Polonia's surprise

A match-winning spree at the end of both the first and second round enabled Polonia to finish the competition higher than generally expected.

Some people had earmarked them for possible relegation, but there were others, of which I was one, who had enough faith in the skill and experience of their players to envisage a far less drastic fate.

This confidence was not misplaced as Polonia finally finished eighth, slightly higher than I had expected.

Like most teams in the Sydney competition their defence on paper looked stronger than their forward line.

However, Polonia was one team who owed the majority of their points to their forwards.

One, in particular, Minol, was outstanding, and week after week emerged as their best player.

If the Polish star had been a local or British player, and a few years younger, he would have gained representative honors this season as he was without a doubt among the best forwards in the competition in 1967.

Krawiarz, whom many expected to be Polonia's star after Gawlik's retirement, disappointed.

He was nowhere as effective as Minol, played too much as an individual, and often found himself in deep water with coach and management alike.

While on the subject of the coach, it's worth a mention that Polonia had their best period when Azzopardi was coaxed out of retirement to replace Szegedi midway through the competition.

As it happens so often, a change of coach gave the side added impetus, and Polonia, towards the end of the premiership, were among the form teams — their 1-8 loss to APIA in the second last round notwithstanding.

In the past, well endowed with goalkeepers, this key position let the team down in 1967.

Polonia were plagued with 'keeping problems the moment Drewniak was out of action.

Many replacements were tried out, none of them satisfactorily, until Bout came out of retirement to add slightly more stability to a defence, which generally proved too slow for the pace of the First Division.

Skiba, Dzialach, Komoder and Nowacki still showed plenty of ability, but these near-veterans can no longer cope with the young, enthusiastic, though less skilled, forwards now abounding in most local sides.

Whereas in 1965, Polonia were relegated because of the weakest forward line in Sydney, in 1967 their attack saved them.

I am certain that if their forwards had been in the same mould as their defenders, Polonia would have come very near to dropping out once again.

Polonia, for the first time, shed their inhibitions about local players.

During the season no less than nine "locals" were given the chance to play in the first team.

Among those, stalwart Ron Baker, was easily the best.

The versatile Baker played in just about every field position, acquitting himself excellently.

Polonia's reserve grade sides contained many talented young players, some of whom will get their chance next season from a club increasingly aware that their source of players in Poland may eventually dry up.

Polonia, in 1968, however, may again be bolstered by a couple of Polish imports, but don't be surprised if Poles are in a minority in the 1968 side.

The acquisition of North Sydney Oval as their home ground for half their games in 1967 was the brightest feather in Polonia's cap this year.

Their bid for North Sydney Oval gave the lie to their detractors who claimed they had no interest in the area, and that "North Sydney" was just a meaningless tag.

Polonia next season intend to apply for the ground again, and are hopeful of getting many more dates.

■ SECOND DIV. REVIEW

INJURIES HAVE RUINED HORNSBY'S BID

— By CHARLES SPITERI —

The 1967 season was one of frustration and disappointment for Hornsby-North End Soccer Club, who, after an exciting start, could only finish eighth on the competition table.

This is one season that officials and supporters would rather forget.

Although from the outset the club was never after promotion, it contracted too many problems and difficulties mainly stemming from a plague of injuries to key players almost throughout the season.

After a very impressive beginning, gaining valuable points from strong sides such as Granville and North Banks town, the side started to run into difficulties, lost all its sparkle and determination and commenced the descent.

As the season advanced, more problems propped up and the reshuffled team with new replacements almost every week seemed to have unbalanced the side to the extent that the deterioration continued right to the end.

In several matches, officials had to field a team which had as many as five reserves in it — mostly second grade inexperienced juniors.

Actually, this presented the opportunity to blood the young and the talented and to some extent this purpose was served very well, but in the process the side suffered some humiliating defeats.

But the greatest setback of the season that hit the club was when it lost its prolific scoring centre-forward Nicky Bastas with a broken leg in the match against Sutherland.

Despite the bad luck and all the other difficulties, Hornsby will come back next season as a force united and organised on and off the field backed by a never-tire, hard working committee.

This assumption is based on the club's short but colorful history which began in 1962 when, as the Thornleigh under-21 team coached by none other than Frank Parsons and managed by Earl Partridge, the side won the State Championship defeating Newcastle in the final.

Rather than disband such a good side, Hornsby-North End was born and entered in the then newly formed Amateur Division.

It won the Amateur Cup in that season but was defeated in the grand final by Marconi in both grades.

One season later, Hornsby-North End won the premiership in both grades scoring a total of 230 goals and conceding 62.

In its first season in Second Division the club finished with eight points but it was then realised that if further progress was to be achieved it was necessary to organise a licensed Social Club, all-the-year training facilities and preferably acquiring their own ground.

With this in view, Bill Inglefield, patron of the club, formed Northern District Sporting Promotions Ltd. that purchased an 11-acre site at West Pennant Hills.

In keeping with the club's announced policy of encouraging juniors from the Hornsby-Ku-ring-gai districts, the team's strength will depend on some of its outstanding juniors making good in the higher sphere.

One of these juniors is Ken Mapledoran who was selected earlier in the under-16 State team.

Balgownie has hopes

Balgownie, once the glamor side on the South Coast and for several seasons a leading club both in First and Second Division soccer, could only finish in tenth position on the competition ladder after one of the most disappointing seasons in the club's history.

A series of events both on and off the field led the club to crumble to its lowest ebb but the most serious of them was when, at the beginning of the season, after only two matches, injuries to the stalwart centre-half Ian Potter and goalkeeper Bob Jones opened a big gap in the team's defence which, despite the frequent replacements, was never properly and effectively filled.

To make things worse, the club lost soon after the services of Herman Egbers, its most prolific-scoring centre-forward who, because of studies, made only brief appearances in local district soccer this year.

But the troubles could be traced even further back to several seasons ago when the club changed its name to Wollongong Olympic in an endeavour to incorporate migrants into club affairs, a move which was not successful by any means.

At the end of last season, the club reverted back to its old name of Balgownie and after lengthy negotiations secured the services of Jim Harris, former Blackpool and South Coast United star as coach.

Jim toiled hard with the

side which comprised mostly of players from the Balgownie junior ranks but through lack of experience the team never clicked reliably, winning a difficult game one week against the strongest of oppositions, then lapsing badly against weaker and less experienced opponents.

Although the club's fortunes are at its lowest, officials are not despondent and have high hopes that a strong revival of the Balgownie Soccer Club is just around the corner.

Two of the most outstanding juniors in the side that emerged from last season are 16-year-old Richie Del Santo, a left winger, and 18-year-old Terry Waterman, an inside-left who with some experience behind them will make a bigger impression next season.

Other talented youngsters in the side will be Robert Tolson (18), Neil Large (19), Terry Simister (19), Dick Whitehead (19) and Allan Thommeny (20).

But Balgownie's hard working committee is not stopping there and although the fortune of the side will depend greatly on the local talent, the club has already started negotiations to sign on three experienced players for the 1968 season.

With this added strength the club hopes to make a bold bid in 1968 to take out the Second Division premiership and gain admittance to First Division that will restore all the former glory and tradition to this old Australian club.

Czechoslovakia

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READERS' LETTERS

PLEASE, TAKE US SERIOUSLY!

As one of the 5,000 spectators at Lake Macquarie last Monday, I wish to register my strong protest, through your excellent paper, for the manner in which the so-called NSW team (Sydney) was selected.

Thousands of Northern fans were looking forward to see the best Southern players in action.

What we got instead was a collection of spare parts — a team which put on a mediocre show and again ruined Sydney's soccer image in Newcastle.

Whenever Sydney teams visit the North they seem to leave all their talent and keenness back South.

I, for one, yet have to see a top class display from a Sydney team in Newcastle.

Why is it that Sydney fans and administrators regard us Northerners as slightly innocent-minded "Country Cousins", who rate no consideration, just an occasional appearance under sufferance?

Instead of talking about a Sydney-Melbourne orientated National League, Sydney officials should look to the North of their own State.

Sydney and Newcastle must get together, as you said in a recent issue, at all levels — the sooner, the better.

D. D'ARRIENZO
Adamstown, NSW.

A U S T R A L I A

CROATIA MAY BE THE DANGER IN THE CUP

— From BOB LOW in Melbourne —

Australia Cup quarterfinals will be played in Melbourne on both days of the weekend.

Juventus Melbourne will meet Azzurri Perth or Juventus Adelaide on Saturday at Middle Park and Croatia and Melbourne clash at Olympic Park on Sunday.

Juventus Melbourne will have a decided advantage even before the kick-off as their opponents have little time to recover from their first round tie which is played in Adelaide Thursday night.

After their improved display against JUST, Juventus Melbourne seem unlikely to show any great change in their line-up which means they will have five Scots, four Italians, one German and one Englishman trotting out.

Juventus of Adelaide, who should be the Victorians' opponents, are also a mixture, so we may see plenty of variety in style.

Despite the fine record of the South Australian

team in the Australia Cup in the past, the fact that they are playing on Thursday night, and then away from home on the Saturday is something of a handicap.

That's why I select Juventus of Melbourne to win.

If Azzurri reach the quarterfinal, then I expect the Melbourne team's task to be somewhat easier.

Melbourne-HSC v. Croatia

This clash should be a fast, exciting quarterfinal match.

Both teams place emphasis on direct soccer, with an all-out greed for goals.

However, on last week's results, Croatia must start warm favorites for their first chance ever of making club history by reaching the semifinals of the Australia Cup.

Croatia's win, away from home on a strange ground in front of only a handful of their own fans against West Adelaide Hellas was magnificent.

Taking stock of the two teams they have a lot in common.

Both have defences which to all intents and purposes are sound overall but have at least one obvious weakness.

Both have forwards who, if they get into top gear and click, can be a problem for any rearguard.

And both play no-nonsense soccer and get on with the game.

Melbourne have a slight pull in defence while the Croatia attack is just a shade more penetrative than that of Melbourne.

With a slight edge in pace, in attack and a convincing win away from home behind them, I'm plumping for Croatia to represent Victoria in the semifinals, and cause a flutter among the Sydney clubs still left in the competition.

LAUNCESTON WERE GALLANT LOSERS

Lowly Launceston United frightened the hell out of Melbourne-Hungaria, before eventually losing 1-2 last weekend.

Juventus also scored a narrow win — but were far more impressive in their 2-1 win over JUST.

How the two games went:

Melbourne-HSC v. Launceston Utd. 2-1

Melbourne-HSC scrambled through after one of the most astonishing Australia Cup matches ever played in Victoria.

A goal down after 10 minutes, the Victorian team, without rising to any great heights, were immeasurably superior in every phase of the game but the sum total of their dominance was to hit the crossbar a couple of times, the post three times and the side of the netting on half a dozen occasions.

Until five minutes from the end, when they rattled on two goals in less than a minute.

The Launceston team was a bunch of enthusiastic amateurs who were under-trained and carried many players obviously overweight.

Still, all credit to the Tassie side. They struggled gamely all through and seemed at no time to be under any false illusion as to the final outcome.

With the exception of Surma in goal, who appeared nervous and shaky, Melbourne were sound in defence.

In attack, however, they flopped.

For Launceston none did better than Bain in goal, Donaldson, Witherford and Hill.

Melbourne: Surma; Fowler, Gregal; Connolly, Scott, Shanks; McCann, Abonyi, Stoffels, Grenville, Myers.

Launceston: T. Bain; Kromeskothen, Donaldson; Smith,

Hackett, Dracup; Roper, Witherford, S. Bain, Hill, Van Der Pols.

Scorers: Abonyi, McCann for Melbourne; Roper for Launceston.

Referee: Mellings (SA).

Crowd: 1810.

Juventus v. JUST 2-1

Juventus deserved to win in the finish but JUST can only blame themselves for going out.

With the score 1-1 at half-time, JUST held the upper hand and squandered a penalty soon after the resumption when Voigt easily saved from Cirkovic after Gentry had pulled down A. Kazi.

From then on and especially for the last half hour JUST were never effective as an attacking force and in fact at the best they were playing with three forwards.

Juventus tried hard throughout without showing any real semblance of team-work and were best served by Corti, Norman and Epifano.

JUST were the better side as a combination and at times played some delightful soccer.

Pick of the Footscray team were Micic, Gakovic and Rusmir.

Juventus: Voigt; Sonsini, Gentry; Della Rocca, Scott, Millar, Norman, Bell Epifano, Corti; Di Marchi (Malloy).

JUST: S. Kazi; Handricks, Rusmir; Micic, Rice, Cirkovic; A. Kazi, Zlati, Hughes, Gakovic, Adamovic.

Scorers: Norman and Epifano for Juventus; Zlati for JUST.

Referee: A. Boskovic (NSW).

Crowd: 4892.

— Bob Low

W.A. TEAM HAS TALENT GALORE

— From ALAN NEWMAN in Perth —

Western Australia will be represented by their reigning State League champions in the Australia Cup for the first time when Azzurri tackles South Aussie champs Juventus in Adelaide.

Azzurri romped home to win the WA league premiership by nine points, going through the season unbeaten with an imposing record of 15 wins and three draws.

It will be Azzurri's second successive Australia Cup jaunt.

Last year they provided one of the major shocks of the first round by downing Melbourne's Slavia in Perth.

This year's Azzurri side is a classy outfit.

Three newcomers to the 1967 Azzurri line-up — half-backs Dick Jones and Jim McIntosh and inside forward Tony Lawlor — all won selection in WA's Merdeka Cup side.

Jones, formerly on the books of Huddersfield Town, has given Azzurri tremendous midfield strength as a link man.

McIntosh, a Scot, is an attacking half-back with a flair for crashing home thumping drives from outside the penalty box.

He was the star of the 1967 Ampol Cup tournament for Swan Valley, transferring to Azzurri at the start of the winter season.

Lawlor, a red-haired inside-left, was one of WA's leading scorers in the Merdeka Cup tournament.

In winning the title Azzurri scored 75 goals and conceded only 25.

Nearly one-third of their goals came from the feet and head of centre forward Johnny Van Oosten and next in the scoring list was inside-right Nino Segon.

In defence, Azzurri are steady rather than spectacular. Fullbacks Vlada Knezevich and Dick Hobson are a workmanlike pair.

Centre-half Peter Giorgi, one of WA's most dependable defenders in Malaysia in August, plays almost exclusively as a stopper, rarely moving upfield to set an attack in motion.

Behind them Azzurri has the choice of Milano Milovich or Peter Schlingmann as goalkeeper.

Under coach Doug Stewart, who has succeeded in grooming Azzurri into a team in the strictest sense — one couldn't say the same when Ivan Piki was at the helm — I'd say Azzurri are at least a two-goal better side than the one that played Melbourne-HSC last year.

I'm not making any predictions about the outcome of the Adelaide game, but one thing is for sure: Juventus will know they've been in a match.

JUVENTUS HOPEFUL

Adelaide Juventus may field two surprise newcomers for their Australia Cup game against WA's top team at Hindmarsh tonight (Thursday, October 14).

They are goalkeeper, Luigi Fassina, 26, and utility forward, Severino Zampronio, 20, who arrived in Adelaide on Friday.

The Italian pair played for Fourth Division team Montebelluna.

They were signed by Juventus chairman Renzo Tomazetto several months ago.

Fassina, tall and agile, was a team mate of Syd Rossetto when the Adelaide-born player played for Montebelluna in 1959-61.

Rossetto lived at Fassina's house in Italy and now Rossetto is reciprocating.

With Johnny Chiappin injured, the arrival of the new players will boost Juventus' Australia Cup chances.

Juventus, now SA's sole representative in the national series, are determined to maintain their good Australia Cup record.

If Zampronio can carry his training form into match play and strike an understanding with Giovanni Meneghetti, Tom McColl, Steve Herczeg and Manuel Cruz, Juventus could achieve greater success than in past seasons.

— Alan Crisp

MEEK HELLAS BUNDLED OUT

— From ALLAN CRISP in Adelaide —

Croatia Melbourne bundled an unimaginative West Adelaide Hellas out of the Australia Cup by scoring a 2-0 win last Saturday at Hindmarsh.

Croatia, faster and more fluid in attack, deserved to win but Hellas contributed to their own downfall by sticking to their defensive formation even when they were a goal in arrears.

It was a pity that Hellas kept their attacking power in wraps because they created a false impression.

Croatia's Vojtek was an instant hit with the crowd.

He impressed with his speedy, creative play and his fine tackling ability.

Vojtek had the first shot of the game but Peter Tsitsos dived to save.

McMeehan muffed a glorious chance to score after 12 minutes when a poor clearance went straight to him.

Hellas went close three minutes later when Ted De Lyster fired in a powerful free kick which John Young punched clear.

Hellas should have scored mid-way through the half when De Lyster swung a perfect cross into the goalmouth, but Peter Worthington glanced a header narrowly past the post.

Croatia were unlucky when Vojtek made an opening for McMeehan and Brian Adlam but the latter floated his header onto the crossbar.

Croatia ripped through the Hellas defence to score after 36 minutes.

Adlam and Jim McKay combined to put a square

pass along the six-yard line where McMeehan smacked home an easy shot.

Hellas, stung by the reverse, exerted strong pressure for the final five minutes of the half.

The home side opened strongly in the second term to earn shots from Tony Batchelor and Worthington but it was obvious that Hellas were not prepared to change their defensive pattern.

Croatia averted the possibility of an equaliser by adopting stalling tactics.

Referee E. Bude cautioned several Croatia players and Nick Kefaloudis of Hellas as he attempted reprisals when Billy McArthur took "forever" to throw in.

McArthur, hobbling in attack with a hip injury, clinched the win when he scored from close range.

WA Hellas v. Croatia (Vic.) 0-2 (0-1).

Scorers: McMeehan 36 min., McArthur 88 min.

WA Hellas: Tsitsos, Marusic, Kefaloudis, Worthington, Burdett, Forde, Pantelis, Solopotias, Batchelor, Irwin, De Lyster, Zervas replaced Burdett (injured) after 37 mins.

Croatia: Young, D. McKay, Bot, Rau, Gunn, McArthur, Adlam, Glaser, Vojtek, J. McKay, McMeehan.

Referee: E. Bude (WA).

Crowd: 5,700.

Aust. Cup dates

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12

Juventus (SA) v. Azzurri (WA) — Hindmarsh Stadium, Adelaide, 8 p.m. — Referee: R. Lamb (Vic.).

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14

Juventus (Vic.) v. Azzurri (WA) or Juventus (SA) — Middle Park, Melbourne, 3 p.m. Referee: N. Jones (NSW)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15

Melbourne-HSC v. Croatia (Vic.) — Olympic Park, Melbourne, 3 p.m. — Referee: D. Grant (SA).

Pan Hellenic v. Newcastle Austral — Wentworth Park, 1.15 p.m. — Referee: R. Armstrong (Vic.).

APIA v. Lake Macquarie — Wentworth Park, 3 p.m. Referee: L. Straface (Vic.).

PROBABLE CUP LINE-UPS

Juventus (SA) v. Azzurri (WA)

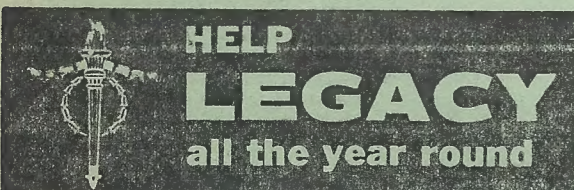
FASSINA	1	MILANOVICH
MILL	2	KNEZEVICH
BAGGIO	3	HOBSON
WEST	4	MCINTOSH
RUSALEN	5	GIORGI
PERIN	6	JONES
SERAFINI	7	HOLT
MCCOLL	8	SEGON
DA CRUZ	9	VAN OOSTEN
MENEGHETTI	10	LAWLOR
ZAMPRONIO	11	MILLER

Melbourne-HSC v. Croatia (Vic.)

SURMA	1	YOUNG
FOWLER	2	D. MACKAY
GREGAL	3	BOT
CONNELLY	4	RAU
SCOTT	5	GUNN
SHANKS	6	MCARTHUR
MCCANN	7	ADLAM
ABONYI	8	GLASER
STOFFELS	9	VOJTEK
GRENVILLE	10	J. MACKAY
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NEWCASTLE CHALLENGE SURE TO WORRY APIA AND P. HELLENIC

— By LOU GAUTIER —

The Eastern Group quarterfinals of the Australia Cup at Wentworth Park on Sunday will be Sydney v. Newcastle affairs.

APIA will meet Lake Macquarie, the Northern NSW Grand Final winners, and Pan Hellenic will play Newcastle Austral, the minor premiers.

Last weekend's first round of the Australia Cup was a triumph for Newcastle.

By accounting for South Sydney Croatia and Latrobe, both their representatives have qualified for the quarterfinals for the first time.

Their Sydney opponents reached the second round in vastly different style.

The depleted APIA romped home as expected against Juventus Canberra 7-1, while Pan Hellenic scored a surprise 2-1 win after extra-time over the Sydney Grand Final winners, St. George-Budapest.

Our previews of Sunday's Sydney double-header:

Pan Hellenic v. Newcastle Austral

Pan Hellenic, in the second round of the Australia Cup for the first time ever, now have their sights set on a semifinal berth.

Newcastle Austral are the stiff hurdle they have to clear to achieve this.

(Continued from page 1.) cecture of appointing managers, coaches, selectors and finally selecting the players.

And every time it's an almost entirely different crew!

Of those who took the team to Asia in 1965 nobody has survived to go to Saigon two years later, except the masseur.

So whatever experience those men had acquired now goes for nothing — and a fresh band will have to suffer the agonies of fact-finding.

As for the players, the ASF always solemnly declares after internationals that the nucleus of the team will be "kept together", will hold joint training sessions, etc., for the next engagement.

This was never implemented after the Asian tour in 1965, the Roma matches of 1966 or the Scotland ties of 1967.

And one can only hope that after the Saigon Tournament the ASF will refrain from once again pronouncing such plans; at least, this time they will not break their promises.

The Newcastle minor premiers were not impressive in beating Latrobe in Brisbane last Sunday, but against Pan Hellenic will play their hearts out — in typical Newcastle fashion — to become the first Northern NSW club to reach the semifinals of the national competition.

Pan Hellenic will have to be at their best to dispose of the visitors as comfortably as some of their large following is entitled to expect, following last week's prestigious win over St. George-Budapest.

Their forwards must be on-target to make any impression on Austral's keeper, Joe Lanzoni, the hero of Newcastle's 4-4 draw with Sydney two weeks ago.

Austral's robust tactics should not worry Pan Hellenic unduly as their defence is solid and hard-hitting enough to beat the Northerners at their own game.

One of the attractions in the Newcastle team will be left-half Ray Lloyd, a selection in the Australian squad.

Lanzoni, Doolan, McKenzie, Lloyd, Twidle and Gallagher have all played for Northern NSW.

This will be a hard-tackling, typical cup match. Newcastle Austral will be no push-over.

Actually if this match were played in Newcastle, they would even be entitled to slight favoritism, but on Sunday, the home ground advantage — and the whole-hearted support of their fans — should see Pan Hellenic through to the semifinals.

APIA v. Lake Macquarie

As a result of St. George's elimination, APIA have shot to clear favoritism in the Australia Cup, and this despite the enforced absence of Van Blerk, Campana, and now skipper Pat Hughes.

While any other team would have to limit their ambitions after losing such key players, APIA are favored to at least reach the final, and rather comfortably at that.

Lake Macquarie, despite their win over Croatia, should not halt what may be APIA's triumphant march towards their second consecutive Australia Cup.

Newcastle teams are always a two-goal better proposition at home.

In Sydney, however, they seem to lose their confidence and are not nearly as effective.

This Lake Macquarie side, however, cannot be under-rated, and the make-shift APIA will have to sweat and toil for their berth in the semifinals.

Of particular interest to Sydney fans will be the presence of former Yugal stars, Schwarz and Ringhoff, in the Newcastle team, as well as the inclusion of Dennis Wright, Lake's brilliant halfback, who's nearly joined Croatia this year.

Wright is reputed to be one of the most gifted Australian-born players in the country.

His performance is bound to be watched closely by Sydney talent scouts, always on the lookout for young local talent.

APIA's players need no introduction.

Since crashing in the Grand Final, APIA have scored two crushing victories, netting 14 goals in the process, and their morale must now be fully restored.

APIA's defeat would be the biggest upset since the start of the Australia Cup, but we can't see this happening.

Johnny Giacometti in attack: Nuttall, Ackerley, Taylor and Bottalico in defence, should have too many guns for the gallant Novocastrians.

CROATIA MAKES CUP HISTORY

— By JACK MATTHEWS in Newcastle —

Beaten 3-1 by Lake Macquarie at Speers Point last Sunday, Croatia earned the dubious distinction of becoming the only Sydney team defeated by a Newcastle opponent in the Australia Cup.

The Northerners ran rings round the Croatia defence, which never displayed its reputed coolness and method.

Croatia's defence made many blunders and all three Lake Macquarie goals came from big mistakes by the Sydneysiders' rearguard.

Croatia were never in the race: at no stage did they look like winning against a fitter, stronger opponent.

Dennis Wright, the talented young Newcastle left-half was the best player on the field, underlining how unlucky he was to miss selection in any of the Australian teams.

Croatia greatly disappointed the 4,000 spectators who expected much more from a team which had beaten the mighty APIA twice this year.

Their players, with rare exceptions (Cush, Giles) appeared jaded, and cohesion of any kind was sadly missing between defence and attack.

Lake Macquarie have played better this season, but against this Croatia, an average display was more than ample to get them to the next round.

Lake Macquarie: Gabriel, Woods, Smith; Boardman, Ringhoff, Wright; Herbert, Schwarz, Irwin, Hinchcliffe, Dunne.

Croatia: Curry, Lincoln, Sloan; Snedden, Curry, Shepherd; Swoboda, Frakes, R. Cush, Giles, Fraser.

Scorers: Curry (own goal) 3 min., Hinchcliffe 41 min., Dunne 60 min. for Lake Macquarie; R. Cush 16 min. for Croatia.

Referee: V. Dobinson (Qld.).

Crowd: 4,000.

AUSTRAL THRASH LATROBE

Latrobe generously contributed to their own defeat against Newcastle Austral at the Brisbane Exhibition Ground last Sunday.

The Queenslanders played into the hands of their rugged, hard-tackling opponents by holding on to the ball too long, especially their forwards.

Although the visitors won 4-1 in a canter, they were not over-impressive, and not as good as in 1963 when beaten 0-1 by Azzurri.

Two players who did catch the eye were centre-forward Robbards and right-half Doolan, who played much better than Ray Lloyd, the Australian squad member.

Latrobe only matched their opponents for a brief period in the second half when they managed the bridge the gap.

Austral in the last 15 minutes regained the ascendancy, but their winning three-goal margin was flattering and didn't quite reflect the trend of the entire 90 minutes.

Latrobe: McGawley, Bain, Hickman; Walton, Stewart, Clementson; Green, Tucker, Van der Hurst, Maher, Buchanan.

Newcastle Austral: Lanzoni; Gallagher, Gordon; Doolan, McKenzie, Lloyd; Twidle, Skelly, Robbards, Lagerstrom, Adamson.

Scorers: Skelly 16 min., Robbards 30 and 74 min., Lagerstrom 89 min. for Newcastle Austral; Tucker 58 min. for Latrobe.

Referee: K. Lockrey (NSW).

Crowd: 2,500.

— Ron Mitchell

Laraman wrecked Saints' hopes

— By ALAN SPEERS —

It would be all too easy to say that St. George-Budapest's 2-1 defeat by Pan Hellenic last Sunday was due to a defensive lapse.

Easy, but hardly true!

Admittedly, Laraman's winning goal, in the ninth minute of extra time, was the rock on which Saints' hopes crumbled. And, that it came about because of Schaefer's hesitancy — totally out of character in this fine player — is undeniable.

St. George, however, lost because, unlike Pan Hellenic, they failed to capitalise on their scoring opportunities.

Dominant for long periods, particularly in the second half, they fell down in what is, after all, the basic prerequisite of soccer: the art of scoring goals.

All of which should not be taken as a reflection on Pan Hellenic's win.

Any team which can defend as resolutely and skilfully as did Pan Hellenic deserves any luck which comes their way.

The term luck is, a little unfair.

Laraman's goal was well taken, as was Karyannis' splendid header in the first half.

Pan Hellenic's modus operandi was simple. At times, they had just two forwards in Saints' territory, but they were obviously playing to a pre-conceived plan of the sudden break-away.

As it happened, the plan worked perfectly, and both goals came against the run

of play, shocking the premiers.

St. George, playing with a brand of confidence obviously springing from their win over APIA in the grand final, opened the scoring in the 23rd minute via a Warren header.

Cliss, again the star of the Saints' line up, chipped the ball delicately over the Pan Hellenic defensive wall from a free kick, for Warren to score.

Fourteen minutes later, Karyannis equalised with an equally fine header from Laraman's cross, beating Haffey's rather mistimed dive.

One-all and so it stayed until full time, to set the stage for Laraman's match-winning effort in extra time.

Chasing a high ball down centre field, he somehow sneaked his foot around Schaefer to lob the ball over the flat-topped Haffey.

Pan Hellenic: Maglis; Johnston, Hignett, Westwater, Dounias, McCulloch, Vrolyks (Bardetta), Smith, Laraman, Karyannis, Blazit.

St. George-Budapest: Haffey; Isaac, Hillary, Schaefer, Morgan, Zuckerman, Stegbauer, Warren, McColgan, Cliss, McCue (Telser).

Scorers: Warren (23), Karyannis (37), Laraman (99).

Referee: D. Maitland (Vic.).

APIA v. Juve. (ACT) 7-1

APIA's defence of the title won last year from Hakoah started very much as anticipated, but not without producing one or two setbacks.

The loss of Hughes with hamstring trouble cannot have pleased club officials, coming, as it does, on top of Campana's cartilage operation.

But Hughes' injury, unfortunate as it was, served to shake APIA out of a mood bordering on the melancholy.

Whether this mood had its roots in a misguided feeling of kinship towards Juventus (ACT) is difficult to say, but lethargic the APIA players were.

One always felt that it was only a matter of time before APIA would assert their obvious superiority. Yet, just as obviously, they were in no hurry about doing it.

Even Pompor's goal in the 19th minute failed to arouse much response from the APIA players, Blue excepted, and the curious lack of conviction was typified by their reaction to Rivero's equaliser.

Only Giacometti, whose pass "made" the goal, bothered to congratulate Rivero.

Pompor, slower than in his days with St. George-Budapest, was nevertheless, a worry to the APIA defence, and almost notched his second goal in the 36th minute when his shot ran past the gaping APIA goalmouth.

But if Juventus had developed any thoughts of causing an upset through all this, they were settled by Hughes' injury.

APIA reshuffled their ranks, with Blue moving to Hughes' right half position, and McKinnon coming on as replacement.

Watkins, whose slip allowed Juventus their first goal, also moved up to the forward line, a sign of APIA's confidence in their ability to handle anything the visitors could produce.

The second half was only six minutes old when Rivero, again from Giacometti's pass, shot APIA into the lead.

From then on, it was all one-way traffic, with Watkins (two), Blue, Giacometti (penalty) and McKinnon all sharing in the spoils as the APIA machine moved, a little reluctantly it seemed, into top gear.

Juventus, sadly outclassed, once APIA began to take things seriously, nevertheless tried hard to keep the score respectable.

Apart from Pompor and, to a lesser extent, outside left Van Dyk, the forwards presented very few problems to the title holders.

APIA: Taylor; Nuttall, Ackerley, Hughes (McKinnon), Watkins, Bottalico, Campbell, Rivero, Blue, Kerklaan, Giacometti.

Juventus (ACT): McMahon, Florit, Janssen, Derrick, Wathison, D'Ambrasio, Pompor, Arquero, Zorrit, Wilkinson, Van Dyk.

Scorers: Pompor (19), Rivero (24 and 51), Watkins (61 and 87), Blue (65), Giacometti (67), McKinnon (85).

Referee: G. Muir. Crowd: 5,000 (double-header).

PROBABLE LINE-UPS

Pan Hellenic v. Newcastle Austral

MAGLIS	1	LANZONI
JOHNSTON	2	GALLAGHER
HIGNETT	3	GORDON
WESTWATER	4	DOOLAN
DOUNIAS	5	MCKENZIE
MCCULLOCH	6	LLOYD
VROLYKS	7	TWIDLE
SMITH	8	SKELLY
LARAMAN	9	ROBBARDS
KARYANNIS	10	LAGERSTROM
BLITZ	11	ADAMSON

APIA v. Lake Macquarie

TAYLOR	1	GABRIEL
NUTTALL	2	WOODS
ACKERLEY	3	SMITH
BLUE	4	BOARDMAN
BOTTALICO	5	RINGHOFF
KERKLAAAN	6	WRIGHT
CAMPBELL	7	HERBERT
RIVERO	8	SCHWARZ
WATKISS	9	IRWIN
GIACOMETTI	10	HINCHCLIFFE
McKINNON	11	DUNNE



ROUND THE WORLD

Another German Schoen

East Germany's new team manager will also be called Schoen, like his West German counterpart. Herbert Schoen, the junior national team manager, is tipped to replace Hungarian-born, Karoly Soos, after the East Germany-Hungary European Nations' Cup match on October 27.

One-year suspension

English players who joined the US Professional League (outlawed by FIFA) will have to sit it out for one season when they return to Britain. The one-year ban applies also to amateur players who were lured to America. The English FA showed more clemency than their Yugoslav, Swiss and West German counterparts who banned for life all their players who moved to the States.

Docherty's shock resignation

Tommy Docherty has resigned as manager of Chelsea. His shock resignation followed his 28-day suspension by the English FA's Disciplinary Committee. Docherty was suspended following incidents during Chelsea's visit to Bermuda earlier this year. Docherty will be replaced by assistant-manager, Ron Stuart.

"Brazilians were doped"

Ademir, one of Brazil's greatest all-time forwards, revealed during a television show in Rio last week that the Brazilian team that beat Spain 6-1 in the 1950 World Cup in Rio-de-Janeiro had been drugged. Ademir said that in those days it was a common practice before big matches. Ademir also claims the West Germans were doped for their 1954 World Cup final in Berne against Hungary.

Labone ends career

Brian Labone, Everton's 28-year-old former skipper has hung up his boots. Labone, an English international centre-half, says he no longer enjoys playing. "Ten years of top-flight soccer is enough for me," he said, explaining his shock retirement. Labone toured Australia with Everton in 1964.

Bring Baxter back

Rangers fans are clamoring for the return of Jim Baxter. Some supporters have formed themselves into a "Bring back Baxter" committee. Celtic's recent decline has given new hope to their arch-rivals who have been very much in the background for the last two seasons. Rangers, according to British bookmakers, are quoted at even money to win the Scottish title. Celtic's odds are 2-1.



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Every Thursday 6.15 p.m.

Japan became the first Asian team to qualify for the finals of the 1968 Olympic Tournament in Mexico. The Japanese finished ahead of South Korea in the qualifying round-robin in Tokyo last week. Burma is tipped to win Asia's second berth in the final in another elimination round-robin later this year.

● Since the start of the season Arsenal have averaged home crowds of 49,675. Last season the "Guns" averaged 22,392 for the entire season at Highbury.

● Stanislas Oslizlo is Poland's "Player of the Year." Oslizlo also won the distinction in 1964 and 1965.

● Celtic fans have chartered six planes to fly them across to Buenos Aires for the first leg of the Intercontinental Cup final against Racing of Argentina.

● Chelsea paid \$150,000 for Geoff Butler, Middlesbrough's fullback. This is a record fee for a fullback in Britain. Chelsea's Scottish international fullback, Eddie McCreadie, is almost certain to be transferred to Sunderland before Christmas.

● Antonio Cesarini, the former AS Roma coach, is tipped to become Argentina's national team manager within a few days.

● Benfica had a narrow escape in the first round of the European Cup. They were unable to beat lowly Glentoran of Belfast. They played a 1-1 draw in Ireland and were held to 0-0 in Lisbon. Benfica only moved to the next round because of the new rule where "away" goals count double in the event of equal goal-average.

● Gornik, Poland's glamor team for the last six years, got off to a bad start this season. After eight rounds the Zabrze club is second last, eight points behind joint leaders, Ruch and Pogon.

● The first round Northern Irish competition match between Linfield and Glentoran ended in a brawl with four spectators arrested and a policeman injured by flying bottles. The trouble started when Glentoran were denied a last-minute goal which would have given them a 3-2 victory.

● Rio and Sao Paulo played a 1-1 draw at the Maracana Stadium in their annual Brazilian interstate clash last week.

● France played with 10 men for the entire second half of their match against West Germany a fortnight ago (5-1 for the Germans). France's halfback, Peri, was sent off after allegedly kicking Beckenbauer. This was the first time a French player had been sent off in an international match since 1937.

● Mauro, Brazil's 1962 World Cup captain, has been transferred to the Mexican club, Toluca.

● Penarol, the 1966 Intercontinental champions, have bought Peru's best player, Julio Baylon, for \$98,000.

● Bela Guttmann's monthly salary as coach of the Greek Panathinaikos is \$2,300.

● Munchen 1860's latest recruit is a 20-year-old Negro, Jimmy Schmitt, whose father was an American GI stationed in Germany after the war.

● It's now official: German star, Franz Beckenbauer, will join Inter Milan when the Italian FA lifts its ban on foreign players (probably in 1969).

● Celtic declined a \$26,000 match fee to play a game in Lima, Peru against local champions, Universitario. Coach Jock Stein was afraid the high altitude would affect his players.

● Geoff Hurst of West Ham has one record to his credit: he has a six-year contract with his club.

● The FA referees and linesmen voted 397 to three against a move to make refereeing a full-time occupation.

● Queens Park Rangers will fine all their players \$12.50 if they don't wear shinguards.

● Scotland's Hibernians have paid \$50,000 for ex-Ranger and now ex-Everton winger Alex Scott.

● Former Brazilian star winger Fagalo has returned to his old club, Botafogo — as coach.

● Linfield's Irish international Billy Ferguson has declined to play in a Fair Cities' Cup match at Leipzig as he won't fly.

Crack Pole retires

Ernest Pohl, one of Poland's best players of the post-war period, has retired. A testimonial match between his club, Gornik, and the Swedish Djurgarden, was played two weeks ago in his honor. Pohl played 49 times for Poland and scored 40 goals in the national team. Last year he was all signed up to join Polonia-North Side in Sydney, but changed his mind in the last minute when he decided to carry on another season in Poland.

\$440,000 offer for Eusebio

The president of Buenos Aires' Boca Juniors, Marcelino Armando, is prepared to pay \$440,000 for Eusebio and another \$220,000 for Simoes, the Portuguese international winger. Armando said if Benfica were willing to release Eusebio, Boca would recoup some of the transfer fee by selling Marzolini, Argentina's top player, to Racing Buenos Aires for \$260,000.

Mazzola's hat-trick

Inter Milan's Sandro Mazzola scored the three goals for the "Rest of Europe" when they beat the Spanish national team 3-0 in Madrid last week in the testimonial match for the famous Spanish goalie, Ricardo Zamora. The European XI was: Sarti, Burgnich, Ure, Schnellinger, Coluna, Cooke, Hamrin, Rivera, Mazzola, Eusebio, Corso.

Three more to Farkas

Janos Farkas, the brilliant Vasas forward, scored all three Hungarian goals in the recent European Championship match in Budapest against East Germany (3-1). Farkas scored in the 2nd, 47th and 49th minutes. East Germany's goal was scored by Franzel in the 57th minute. The win has qualified Hungary for the quarterfinals to be played in March 1968.

SCOREBOARD

EUROPEAN NATIONS' CUP: Czechoslovakia v. Spain 1-0; Greece v. Austria 4-1.

INTERNATIONAL MATCHES: USSR v. Switzerland 2-2.

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS' CUP: Trakia Plovdiv (Bulgaria) v. Rapid Bucarest (Rumania) 2-0; Dynamo Kiev v. Celtic Glasgow 1-1; Valur (Iceland) v. Jeunesse Esch (Luxembourg) 3-3; Kuopion Palloseura (Finland) v. St. Etienne (France) 0-3; Sparta Prague (Czech) v. Skeid Oslo (Norway) 1-1; Djurgarden (Sweden) v. Gornik Zabrze (Poland) 0-1; Benfica v. Glentoran (Nth. Ireland) 0-0.

EUROPEAN CUPWINNERS' CUP: Gyor (Hungary) v. Apollon Limassol (Cyprus) 4-0; Wisla Krakow (Poland) v. IHK Helsinki (Finland) 4-0; Cardiff City (Wales) v. Shamrock Rovers (Eire) 2-0; Motor Zwickau (East Germany) v. Torpedo Moscow (USSR) 0-1; Lyon (France) v. Aris Bonnevoie (Luxembourg) 2-1.

EUROPEAN FAIR CITIES' CUP: Porto (Portugal) v. Hibernians (Scotland) 3-1; Linfield (Nth. Ireland) v. Lokomotiv Leipzig (East Germany) 1-0; Rangers (Scotland) v. Dynamo Dresden (East Germany) 2-1; Liverpool (England) v. Malmo (Sweden) 2-1; Dundee (Scotland) v. DWS Amsterdam (Holland) 3-0; Lyn Oslo (Norway) v. Bologna (Italy) 0-0; CF Barcelona

(Spain) v. FC Zurich (Switzerland) 1-0; Leeds (England) v. Spora (Luxembourg) 9-0.

FRANCE: Valenciennes v. Bordeaux 1-0; Red Star v. Ajaccio 4-1; Sedan v. Sochaux 2-0; Lens v. Aix 4-1; St. Etienne v. Rouen 3-0; Monaco v. Lille 3-1; Strasbourg v. Rennes 1-1; Nantes v. Nice 0-0; Metz v. Angers 1-1; Marseille v. Lyon 2-1.

HOLLAND: DOS v. GVAV 2-2; Telstar v. Feyenoord 1-2; Go Ahead v. Volendam 3-1; ADO v. DWS 3-1; Fortuna v. Sittardia 2-1; NAC v. MVV 1-1; NEC v. PSV 4-0; Sparta v. Xerxes 3-0.

ITALY: Brescia v. Bologna 0-0; Cagliari v. Atalanta 2-1; Fiorentina v. Torino 1-1; Inter Milan v. Vicenza 1-0; Juventus v. Varese 3-3; Napoli v. AC Milan 1-1; Sampdoria v. Mantova 3-0; Spal v. AS Roma 0-3.

SPAIN: Pontevedra v. Bilbao 1-1; Elche v. Valencia 1-0; Malaga v. Zaragoza 2-2; Cordoba v. Betis 3-0; Sevilla v. San Sebastian 0-0; Barcelona v. Atletico Madrid 1-1; Real Madrid v. Espanol 2-2; Las Palmas v. Sabadell (postponed).

SWITZERLAND: Basel v. Lausanne 2-0; Grasshoppers v. Bellinzona 4-5; Grenchen v. Zurich 0-4; Lugano v. Young Fellows 1-0; Lucerne v. Chaux-de-Fonds 4-2; Servette v. Biel 2-1; Young Boys v. Sion 2-2.

Haffey's photo in big U.S. magazine

Remember that superb photo of our staff man, Les Brady, taken at the Grand Final?

Saints' 'keeper Frank Haffey seems to be soaring over the Bar as the final whistle sounds at the Sports Ground.

Well, that photo has made sporting history.

Last week the American LIFE Magazine bought the picture and promptly sent it off to their New York offices.

The chances are it will be reproduced in both the US and International editions.

Which, let us point out with as much modesty as our pride allows — is another SOCCER WORLD first.

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• MELBOURNE STOCKTAKING SLAVIA HAVE CLEANED UP THE CUP MARKET

— From BOB LOW —

This week we begin a six-week series highlighting two of Melbourne's State League sides and start off with clubs who have no further interest in competitive soccer until the Ampol Cup in mid-January.

This week's review takes in South Melbourne Hellas and Slavia, two teams who since 1962, have between them almost held a monopoly on the league and cup competitions.

South Melbourne Hellas

Formed in 1960 with the amalgamation of South Melbourne and Hellenic, they won promotion to the State League the same year and in 1961 finished in the highly creditable fifth position.

In 1962 they shook the soccer world in Victoria by winning the State League title and showed with their success and big support that they had arrived in the big-time.

However, they faltered in 1963 when they dropped down to sixth position, but soon showed this was only a temporary lapse.

In the next three years, 1964, 1965 and 1966, they really went to town by winning the league on each occasion.

The first side ever to win the State League championship three years in a row.

This past season, despite selling their two regular wing halves, Johnny Margarites and Johnny Anderson, they still managed to wind up a respectable fourth but dropped out of the Australia Cup through being banned after their infamous match with Hakoah in the semifinals in 1966.

Undoubtedly the "big shots" of league soccer in Victoria since the State League came into being, South Melbourne Hellas have, however, proved the biggest flop of all as regards to cup-tie soccer.

They must look back with awe to their pot hunting quests and wonder why they have never really clicked in cup-tie soccer.

They have never won a major cup competition since they joined the ranks of the State League.

Nearest they came to success was in 1963 when they were beaten in the final of the Ampol Cup by Polonia and this past season when they were

thrashed by Slavia in the final of the Dockerty Cup. Peculiarly enough, Hellas have had over the years considerable success with a brand of soccer which is reminiscent of the type played by cup winning teams.

As the best supported side by far in the State League, SM Hellas, are in a strong position financially.

They should be able to effect considerable improvement in their playing staff before the start of next season by enticing good class players from overseas or bidding for the best available on the local transfer market, if they hope to improve.

By the same token, a regular inflow of hard cash should play some part in boosting the best of their junior stock in comparison to other clubs.

The Greek club certainly need an infusion and particularly in defence where in more than one position they are very shaky.

In attack, it could well be that Con Nestorides has reached the end of the road.

Best players in 1967 were: Kelly, Bedford, Kokinos and Kamboropolous.

Slavia

From humble beginnings in 1950, Slavia took their place in the State League on its inception in 1958.

Until 1961 they showed little signs of becoming a

real force in Victorian soccer and in fact, it was not until 1963 that they really shot to the top.

They hit the jackpot. For in 1963 they carried off the Australia Cup, beating Polonia in the final after a replay.

Mass importation of good class players from the UK which included Nigel Shepherd, Billy Cook, John Sanchez, Hammy McMeechan, Stan Ackerley and Des Palmer almost guaranteed Slavia success.

In 1964 and 1965, the Port Melbourne club won the Dockerty Cup while in 1966 they were denied a triple success by being narrowly beaten in the final by Hakoah.

However, they won back their mortgage on Victoria's premier cup by decisively defeating SM Hellas in the final two weeks ago.

In fact, with the Ampol Cup and Harry Armstrong Cup as well as the Dockerty Cup in their possession, Slavia have in 1967 made a clean sweep.

So different and so superior to Hellas in cup-tie soccer.

But in League matters Hellas almost make Slavia look like novices, for Slavia have never won the State League title.

Best attempt so far was in 1966, when they finished runners-up to SM Hellas.

Amazing part of the Slavia story has yet to be told. For in the past five years, through simple

economics, they have been forced to sell almost a complete team of stars, the majority of whom transferred to Sydney clubs.

They include: John Docherty, Des Palmer, Stan Ackerley, John Sanchez, John Duffy, Archie Blue, Hammy McMeechan, John Young, David Short and Nigel Shepherd.

As one of the best sides in Victorian soccer over the past five years, they are also one of the poorest supported, hence the almost steady stream of players whom the club allows to leave to replenish their coffers.

One of the hardest sides to beat and the reason isn't hard to find — they have one of the best defences in State League soccer.

In attack, however, it's different, and the management are unlikely to be blinded by the fact that this department went to town against Hellas in the Dockerty Cup final.

For all-so-often this season, the Slavia forwards finished on a dismal note.

A right fullback to replace "stop gap" Jones and at least two good class forwards in the role of spearhead and striker are essential if the club are to bid for the elusive league title in 1968.

Best players in 1967 were: Cook, Goodwin, Randles, Rainey.

● Next week the teams featured are Hakoah and George Cross.

Big trophy night

Under the patronage of the Mayor of Lane Cove (Sydney) Alderman S. J. Friedlander, Lane Cove United Soccer Club held a successful presentation night last Friday at the Lane Cove Town Hall.

More than 600 people attended the function which was compered by TV personality Roger Climpson, a member of the club.

This rather entertaining evening was an example of good organisation evident within the club throughout the season that stopped at nothing to encourage the youngsters in the district.

For the untiring secretary of the club, Bruce Reimer

and president L. Belgre this was the climax of a happy season for which both have worked so hard.

Seventeen teams with a total of 230 players from the ages of seven right up to the first graders were presented with trophies, cups, shields, badges, etc. by the different guests which included the secretary of the NSW Federation, Aulden Brown, the president of the Northern Suburbs Soccer Association, W. Herbert, and an ex-Mayor of Lane Cove, Mrs. Probsting.

Trophies were presented to the "best and fairest" and the "most improved" players in each side and the club's major award —

the Reuben Guiliani Trophy — was presented to Jock Aird, who throughout the season was a great inspiration to the side beside filling the gaps created by injuries.

The most successful team within the club's control was the under 9's Blues, captained by fair-headed Rene Steep, who won the premiership and knock-out competitions, and was presented with the Jubilee Point Score Trophy.

Several from this team appeared in the Northern Suburbs under-10 side which played an exhibition match before the Manchester United v. NSW match at the Showground last June. — Charles Spiteri

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JUST claim to have bright new star

— From BOB LOW in Melbourne —

According to secretary Pike Pavlovich, JUST have gained a real star in inside-forward Bogdan Zlatic who has been in Australia for some time and was expected to sign for Yugal.

Time will tell. Zlatic had considerable first team experience in Yugoslavia.

He played four years with Proleter Zrenjain before joining Radnicki (Belgrade), a leading club and then had a brief spell in Sweden before going to Sydney.

George Cross are certain to have a new president after their annual general meeting next month with the retirement of Lou Debono who has held office for 13 years.

And it's no secret his successor is likely to be leading referee, Joe Bartolo who is also Maltese and a partner in a furnishing retail shop in the Sunshine suburb.

Not so certain is the position of coach with George Cross.

The man in possession is former Cross wing half, Tony Vella who also had spells as a player with JUST and Polonia.

Reports which seem well founded indicate Vella may be on the way out.

For a strong section of George Cross members are dead set in getting back colored coach Steve Mokone who had a brief spell with the club three years ago and who is at present reported to be in Canada.

In fact, I am told that 40 George Cross members are prepared to pay a considerable sum apiece to guarantee that Mokone would be the highest paid coach in Australia.

Polonia skipper and coach, Vic Janczyk, one of the best wing halves ever to adorn Victorian soccer, has quit the game.

Since he came here in 1959, from Lodz in Poland, he has played regularly for Polonia and has chalked up 306 first team appearances.

He has also won the Argus Medal and for many years was an automatic choice for Victoria as well as being coach of the State Squad for two years.

Vic, who is studying accountancy, plans a trip back home to Lodz and will return via Mexico to see the Olympic Games.

RICHARDS MAY JOIN APIA

Queensland's top forward, Ray Richards, is tipped to move to Sydney next season.

Richards, a member of the Australian national team to tour Asia next month, was transferred to Hollandia from Latrobe midway through the 1967 season.

The English-born star is said to have started negotiations with the Australian Cup holders while in Sydney for national team trials earlier this month.

ADELAIDE PROGRAM

Thursday, October 12

AUSTRALIA CUP

Hindmarsh Stadium

8.30 p.m. — Adelaide Juventus v. Azzurri Perth

Saturday, October 14

AMPOL CUP

ELIMINATIONS

Hindmarsh Stadium

3.15 p.m. — Beograd-woodville v. Elizabeth City

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A.S.F. has failed in three main fields

— By PAUL DEAN —

To an increasing degree, critics claim that the Australian Soccer Federation is being reduced to a touring office — internal and external.

Tours are certainly part of the ASF's function and to do that job well is most important.

However, in other fields of operation the ASF has not been so successful.

Let's examine these briefly.

● Oceanic Confederation

More than a year after its birth, this body has yet to get off the ground and show even the slightest sign of life.

At last year's FIFA Congress in London, Australia was the strongest proponent of this Confederation, fighting a splendid battle with other delegates to have it recognised and finally admitted as a regional branch of FIFA, the same as UEFA, CONCACAB and others.

Australia, by virtue of holding all the key positions in the Confederation — president, secretary, etc. — should be the pivotal member, the one which not only justifies its existence but also puts forward concrete, progressive ideas for its development.

To be brutally frank, nothing worthwhile has happened.

Up to date the member countries have not even held a conference to define their aims and aspirations and to set a course for future alliances and co-operation.

Naturally, the question arises if the Confederation is serving any useful purpose at all.

Clearly, there are two alternatives for Australia: either to make the Oceanic Confederation a living thing — or suggest to FIFA its dissolution and then seek full affiliation to the much more lively and active Asian Confederation.

And frankly, knowing the very modest quality of the other Oceanic member countries, we would favor the latter course.

● FIFA aid

For the last few years, we have heard many vague references to aid that was forthcoming from FIFA.

Some referred to money — like a loan for a sports complex — while others hinted at technical aid such as coaches, referees, etc.

Leading lights in the ASF have repeatedly assured the public that such aid was a "certainty".

Yet, so far, the promises have remained promises and one wonders if the ASF had even the right to make such statements on behalf of FIFA which, to this very day, has never committed itself in public.

The ASF's dismal record in this respect speaks for itself.

While under-developed African and Asian countries (soccerwise, that is), have been receiving favorite-son treatment from FIFA, Australia's needs have not even been recognised.

Most of the blame for this, obviously, must go to the ASF itself which expects to get something for nothing.

The Asian countries, for example, have gladly accepted

part of the financial burden for FIFA coach Dettmar Cramer's 12-month Asian tour.

A similar venture by the ASF hasn't even been suggested.

It is probably true to say that some of the ASF executives whose job it would be to think globally, have absolutely no idea of overseas conditions, of the workings of FIFA or of soccer diplomacy at the highest level.

The ASF should have a man dealing with such affairs — a kind of foreign minister, so to say — who has the know-how, the interest and the ability to cope.

But giving away free trips, to ASF executives who then almost on a rotationary basis, accomplish nothing is a poor substitute for hard work and achievement.

● National coach

This idea first cropped up in a concrete form in 1965, just before the Australian team set off on its Asian tour.

More than two years have gone by since but, as usual, nothing has happened.

Actually, there seems to be a great deal of confusion about the position itself.

People — even leading soccer administrators — are apt to speak of a national coach when they really mean a director of coaching.

And this is the man we need in Australia, somebody to formalise for the first time our haphazard and often old fashioned training methods, organise proper courses for senior coaches, explain the latest developments in soccer coaching, etc.

There have been several outstanding names mentioned and some have even indicated an interest in the job if it were to be offered.

However, the ASF never got around to even consider it in concrete terms.

The Australian Coaches' Federation has publicly declared its backing for such an appointment, preferably from overseas.

And, with due respect to their members, there is a crying need for just such a top-rated man, especially if one considers that many if not most of the members of the Coaches' Federation itself have no formal coaching education at all and could learn an enormous lot from leading experts such as Dettmar Cramer, Janos Palfai, Walter Winterbottom, Karoly Soos and others who, for example, recently held a highly successful advanced coaching congress at Zeist, Holland — for senior, First Division coaches.

The "national coach" myth must be killed as soon as possible; with our almost complete lack of full international matches, this position would be almost as luxurious as to have a public servant sending snow reports to Canberra from Sydney.

The director of national coaching could take care of this chore; if he preferred to stay clear, one of the leading club coaches could be appointed from time to time to take charge.

MANY SURPRISES IN TWO SQUADS

— By LOU GAUTIER —

The Australian Federation this week released the names of the 19 players to tour Southeast Asia next month as well as the 16-man "B" squad which will play in New Caledonia between November 5 and 10.

Both squads include many shock selections which are bound to cause plenty of controversy.

The squad of 19 players for the Asian tour is:

Goalkeepers: Ron Corry (South Sydney Croatia), Roger Romanowicz (Adelaide Polonia).

Fullbacks: George Keith (Hakoah Melbourne), Gary Wilkins (Hollandia Brisbane), Stan Ackerley (APIA).

Halfbacks: John Watkiss (APIA), Dick Van Alphen (Hakoah Melbourne), Frank Micic (JUST Melbourne), Manfred Schaefer (St. George-Budapest), Alan Westwater (Pan Hellenic Sydney), Ray Lloyd (Newcastle Austral).

Forwards: Bill Vojtek (Croatia Melbourne), Attila Abonyi (Melbourne Hungaria), John Warren (St. George-Budapest), Tom McColl (Juventus Adelaide), Ray Richards (Hollandia Brisbane), Ray Baartz (Hakoah Sydney), Nick Pantelis (Hellas Adelaide), Ted De Lyster (Hellas Adelaide).

Coach: Joe Vlasits (Sydney).

Sydney has its smallest international representation ever and only provides seven players to the squad.

Victoria has five players, South Australia a very generous four, Queensland two and Newcastle one.

The average age of the team is 23 years and two months.

Melbourne Hakoah's Dick Van Alphen, at 30, is the oldest — and the shock

selection of the squad — and Roger Romanowicz, of Polonia Adelaide, the youngest as he just turned 20.

The tourists will leave Sydney on Monday, October 30.

The revised tour itinerary is:

● Nov. 1-14: Vietnam Tournament (Saigon).

● Nov. 22: v. Singapore (Singapore).

● Nov. 25: v. Malaysia (Kuala Lumpur).

● Nov. 29: v. Singapore (Singapore).

● Dec. 1: v. Indonesia (Djakarta).

● Dec. 3: v. Indonesia (Djakarta).

The two matches against Thailand at Bangkok have been scrapped.

The ASF is attempting to replace these fixtures with two internationals against Asian Games winners, Burma, at Rangoon, or alternatively to play an additional game in Saigon as an exhibition match for the Australian Forces in South Vietnam.

"B" TEAM

The "B" team to play in Noumea against New Caledonia and New Zealand is:

Goalkeepers: Ross Kelly (Coaststars Brisbane), Henry Surma (Melbourne Hungaria).

Fullbacks: Geoff Harcombe (Prague Sydney), Alan Lind (Cottesloe Perth), Colin Curran (Adamstown Newcastle).

Halfbacks: Geoff Morgan (St. George-Budapest), George Whitaker (Grange Thistle Brisbane), David Baker (Hakoah Melbourne), Horst Schneider (Wallsend Newcastle), Ray Cush (South Sydney Croatia).

Forwards: Larry Armytage (Prague Sydney), Gary Manuel (Prague Sydney), Ian Johnston (Coaststars Brisbane), John Perin (Juventus Adelaide), Peter Pont (Adamstown Newcastle), Denis Paterson (South Coast United).

Coach: "Rags" Tatters (Queensland).

Here again Sydney has a very small representation of only six players.

Newcastle and Queensland provide three players, Victoria two, and South Australia and Western Australia one apiece.

The average age of the "B" squad is only 20 years and four months.

The "B" team only includes players under the age of 23.

The team will leave on November 3 to play in a triangular tournament organised by the New Caledonian League.

Australia will meet New Caledonia on November 5, and New Zealand, also at Noumea, on November 10.

The team returns to Sydney on November 12.

The Australians will not play in Papua-New Guinea as planned originally, due to difficulties concerned with timing and transportation.

Smalltalk

I do hope and pray that our administrators, busy cutting one another's throat, have noted the fact that the days of the current City of Sydney administration are numbered. And I also hope they see the ball at their feet.

By ball I mean the chance to approach, without delay, the leaders of the Civic Reform Group, chiefly Ald. McDermott, the probable new Lord Mayor and present a strong, new case for the re-development of ES Marks Field.

The present Labor-ruled Council has repeatedly refused to spend money on building a cover for the stands. Last year the Lord Mayor, Ald. Armstrong told me during a conversation that "if the soccer people want it done, they can pay for it themselves."

Well, we want it done alright — but feel that this is a job for the Council. If Sydney can spend \$1.5m. on garbage removal a year, surely it can afford to spend a few thousand on improving the city's only true athletic stadium which is also one of the major soccer grounds.

New broom sweeps well, or so they say. Soccer should tackle the Civic Reform Group now; the chances are they will get a very favorable hearing.

One of the most ill-conceived competitions ever — this could be a fitting tag for the recently concluded "KO-Cup." Judging by the attendances, the public was the first to be kayoed.

Who dreamed up this series and why? What glorious optimism induced the Federation to assume that just when attendances are in a slump, a knock-out series, without the top four clubs, could be successful?

Is there no limit to dilettantism in soccer?

Many times over the years we have been advocating the crying need for the development of country soccer. We have urged the Federation as well as our clubs to go on apostolic missions to inland country towns and spread the soccer gospel.

Well, two weeks ago, APIA and St. George-Budapest did just that, at the invitation of the Bathurst City Council, and played a friendly match on the holiday weekend.

Perhaps in order to coincide with the famed Bathurst motor car races, known as the "Bathurst 500," the pathetic attendance at the soccer was about 500.

And this to watch Australia's two top teams in action who, one week earlier, had thrilled us all with that memorable Grand Final.

Somebody in Bathurst did not do his homework. It isn't enough to invite Sydney teams — you also have to promote their visits. Such dismal flops should be avoided in the future.

The Cook monument at Kurnell will be torn down, the Kosciusko Park will be ploughed up while the towns and suburbs of Lugarno, Como, Miranda, Sans Souci, Ayrton, Casino, Toronto, Leichhardt and others will be declared off limits for decent, law abiding citizens. For God help us, these names are so utterly foreign.

This SHOULD happen if we accepted the queer logic of some who stubbornly insist on the total and immediate abolition of "foreign" names of our clubs.

More and more, the staunch advocates of this move speak and act like their predecessors in the "good old" Association days when men like Storey and Orr arbitrarily introduced "decent" names for migrant clubs like Sydney Austral for Hollandia, the meaningless "Europe" for Ferencvaros, etc.

Are we set to bring back these pre-historic days to soccer? Or perhaps are we bringing back the same people who used to follow this policy?

One afternoon paper columnist seriously suggested last week that Ackerley should be used on the left wing and — wait — Ron Corry, the goalkeeper, at inside left, in the Asia-bound Australian team.

Credibility gap reflected in a mirror?

A thousand pities that our bigwigs have no flair for diplomacy. Why on earth was it necessary for the ASF to publicise the fact that Pat Hughes may or may not decline selection over the matter of \$25? Who with a sane mind would consider this good "image" for soccer?

This kind of thing happens all the time in rugby and other sports where players declare themselves "unavailable" for tours. Money may be behind the decision — but it's not publicised.

Trust soccer officialdom to blurt out discreet facts like that for the edification — and amusement — of the public.

No points for public relations

Mike Renwick



FLOTTA LAURO